

REMARKS

The application has been amended to place the application in condition for allowance at the time of the next Official Action.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-20 were rejected as unpatentable over applicant's disclosed prior art Figures 11-21 in view of KIM 6,512,558, and further in view of CHRIST, JR. 6,532,147. That rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 is amended and recites a housing including a front housing member formed as a frame and at least one rear housing member that together support a panel unit and a backlight. The at least one rear unit covers lateral and rear sides of said backlight and said panel unit as a whole and is hingedly coupled to the front housing member.

By way of example, as seen below in Figures 1A and 1B of the present application, the housing includes front housing member 19A and rear housing members 18A that support panel unit 38 and backlight 37A. The front housing member is hingedly coupled to the rear housing members 18A.

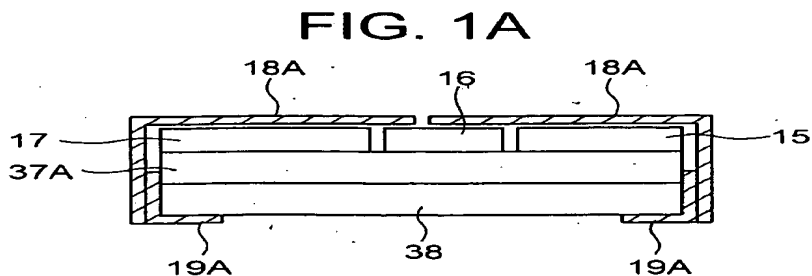
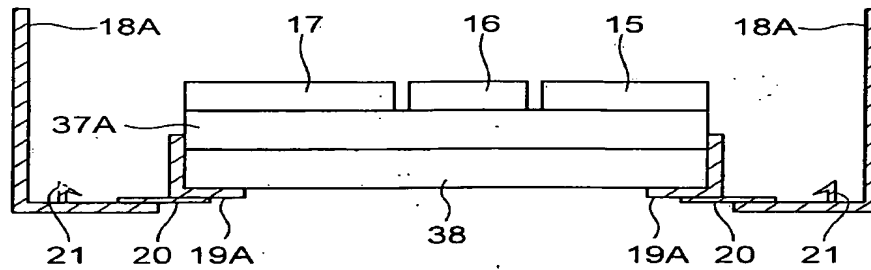


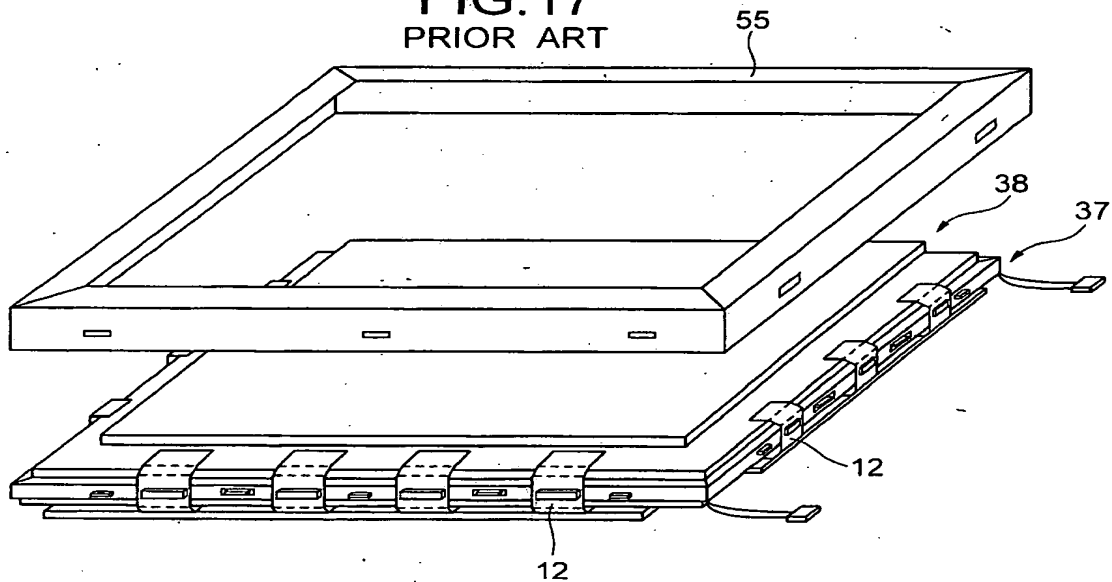
FIG. 1B



As seen by comparing Figures 1A and 1B, when the rear housing member is closed, the rear housing member covers the lateral side (near reference numeral 37a) and the rear side (covering elements 15, 16 and 17) of the backlight 37A and the panel unit 38.

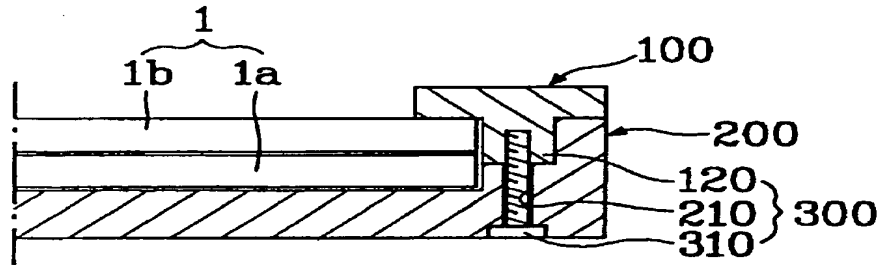
Prior art Figure 17, reproduced below, shows panel unit 37 mounted on the backlight unit 38 and then covered by the front housing 55. See also page 8, lines 9-17.

FIG. 17
PRIOR ART



Similarly, Fig 4B of KIM, reproduced below, shows panel part 1b and backlight 1a covered by housing 200.

FIG. 4B



Since both applicant's disclosed prior art and KIM have similar structures, having the same number of parts, it is not apparent why one would look to the teachings of KIM to reduce the number of parts.

In any event, even if one were to combine applicant's disclosed prior art with KIM, nevertheless, there is no motivation to further modify this combination in view of CHRIST, Jr. to render obvious the present claims.

A modified version of Figure 3a of CHRIST, Jr. is reproduced below and shows a hinge 28 connecting a display screen 24 to a base 22.

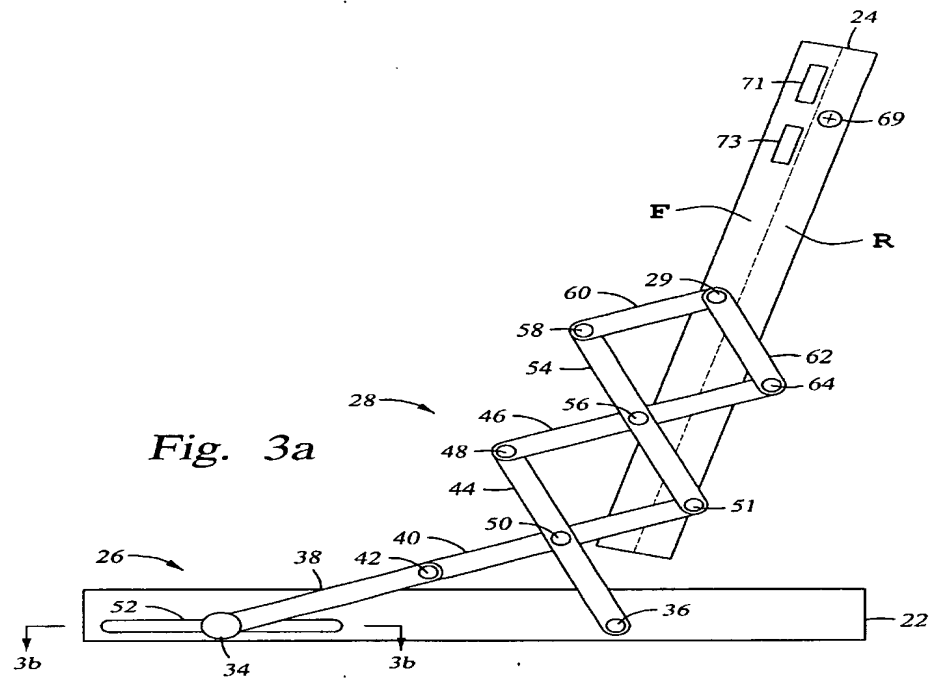


Fig. 3a

The display screen is modified to show a front housing F and a rear housing R, wherein display screen 24 consists of the front housing F and the rear housing R. It is this combination of elements that cover lateral and rear sides of the backlight and panel unit (of the display screen 24).

Closing the display screen 24 over the base 22 as seen below in Figure 6 of CHRIST, Jr. at best covers a rear side of a display unit, but does not cover the lateral sides.

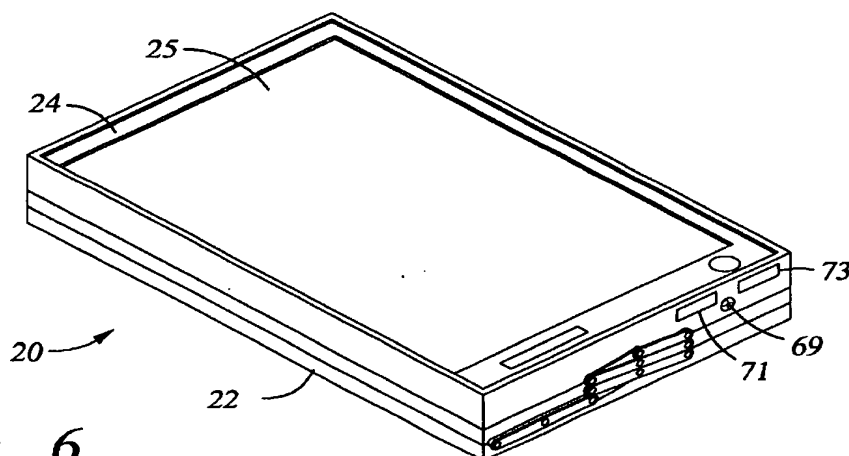


Fig. 6

Thus, CHRIST, Jr. does not meet the limitation of at least one rear unit covering lateral and rear sides of said backlight and said panel unit as a whole.

Moreover, CHRIST, Jr. does not meet the limitation of a housing including a front housing member and at least one rear housing member that together support a panel unit and a backlight. The at least one rear unit is hingedly coupled to the front housing member.

As set forth in the Official Action, applicant's disclosed prior art in view of KIM do not teach at least one rear housing member hingedly coupled to a front housing member.

Accordingly, the proposed combination of referenced do not suggest each of the recited elements and thus *prima facie* obviousness has not been established.

Claim 15 is amended along the lines of claim 1 and the analysis above regarding claim 1 is equally applicable to claim

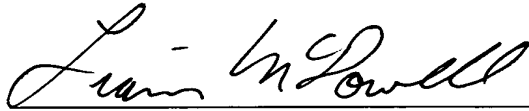
15. Claim 20 is amended to recite two rear housing members. This feature is not disclosed by the combination of references.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing Remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON



Liam McDowell, Reg. No. 44,231
745 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

LM/lk